

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 JOHANN 02157 071200Z

12

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-02  
IO-13 /080 W

----- 026577

R 070925Z DEC 76

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 2157

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SA

SUBJECT: MULTI-RACIAL CONFERENCE PLANS COORDINATED POLITICAL  
ACTIVITY

SUMMARY: A MULTI-RACIAL POLITICAL PLANNING GROUP WHOSE  
PRINCIPAL, IF NOT SOLE PURPOSE, IS OPPOSITION TO  
NATIONALIST GOVERNMENT RACIAL POLICIES CONVENED IN  
JOHANNESBURG THIS PAST WEEKEND (DEC 3,4). CONSENSUS  
FROM THE MEETING WAS CLEARLY THAT PEOPLE OF ALL RACES  
MUST COORDINATE THEIR OPPOSITION, EVEN IN THE FACE OF  
RESTRICTIVE LEGISLATION THAT PROHIBITS MULTI-RACIAL  
POLITICAL GROUPINGS. END SUMMARY.

1. RESPONDING TO A CALL INITIALLY MADE BY THE OPPOSITION  
PROGRESSIVE REFORM PARTY, REPRESENTATIVES OF MANY LEADING  
RACIAL GROUPS, INCLUDING GATSHA AND MANAS BUTHELEZI, COLIN  
EGLIN, HELEN SUZMAN, AND SOME MEMBERS OF THE UNITED PARTY,  
MET TO DISCUSS WAYS OF COORDINATING OPPOSITION TO  
NATIONALIST RACIAL POLICIES THIS WEEKEND.

2. ACCORDING TO REPORTS, INKATHA LEADER GATSHA BUTHELEZI  
EMERGED AS THE MOST AGGRESSIVE OF THE DIFFERENT SPOKESMEN,  
ADVOCATING ACTION BETWEEN WHITES AND BLACKS ACROSS A WIDE  
FRONT OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY, INCLUDING THE DEFIANCE OF  
LAWS THAT ARE DEEMED "IMPROPER INTERFERENCE." HE ALSO  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 JOHANN 02157 071200Z

ADVOCATED THE FORMATION OF A MULTI-RACIAL "SHADOW CABINET"

THROUGH WHICH THE VARIOUS POLITICAL ENTITIES COULD  
"POOL THINKING ON POLICY ALTERNATIVES."

3. WHILE MOST WHITE DELEGATES WOULD NOT COMMIT  
THEMSELVES TO SUPPORT LAW-BREAKING, MANY APPEARED RE-  
CEPTIVE TO POLITICAL COORDINATION, AT LEAST IN THE REALM  
OF POLICY. DELEGATES REPRESENTING WHITE POLITICAL GROUPS  
WERE NOTABLY CAUTIOUS AS THE CONFERENCE WAS TREADING  
FINE LINE IN TERMS OF LEGALITY.

4. A SOURCE PRESENT AT MANY OF THE DISCUSSION, PROF.  
JOHN DUGARD, WAS SOMEWHAT PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE PURPOSE  
AND/OR PROBABLE SUCCESS OF THE CONFERENCE. HE  
OPINED THAT AS LONG AS THEY WERE CAREFUL, THE GOVERNMENT COULD  
PROBABLY NOT STEP IN TO APPLY THE PROHIBITION OF POLITICAL  
INTERFERENCE ACT, A LAW DESIGNED TO PREVENT MULTIRACIAL  
POLITICAL GROUPINGS. HOWEVER, PROF DUGARD WAS NOT  
SURE THAT BLACK POLITICAL GROUPS WOULD PLACE THEIR CON-  
FIDENCE IN SUCH POLITICAL ACTIVITY, MAKING PARTICULAR  
REFERENCE TO THE STUDENTS, AND NOTED THAT MANAS BUTHELEZI  
HAD NOT ENCOURAGED WHITE PARTICIPANTS TO EXPECT BLACKS TO  
SUPPORT THIS TYPE OF ACTIVITY WITHOUT ACCOMPANYING  
MEANINGFUL ACTIONS ON THEIR PART.  
JOHNSON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, POLICIES, PARTY MEETINGS, OPPOSITION PARTIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976JOHANN02157  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760451-0734  
**From:** JOHANNESBURG  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761267/aaaacfrg.tel  
**Line Count:** 85  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** wolfsd  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <01 JUN 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <06 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MULTI-RACIAL CONFERENCE PLANS COORDINATED POLITICAL ACTIVITY SUMMARY: A MULTI-RACIAL POLITICAL PLANNING GROUP W  
**TAGS:** PINT, SF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006